

Ecology General Permits – Update for September 2012

Aquatic Pesticide permits

Aquatic Invasive Species Management General Permit, effective May 20, 2011. The permit covers use of chemicals and other products to control aquatic invasive species animals and non-native invasive marine algae. It is unique in the nation for these uses.

- No update

Aquatic Mosquito Control General Permit, reissued June 2010. The permit covers chemical management of mosquitoes through the use of larvicides and adulticides.

- No update

Aquatic Noxious Weed Control General Permit, effective February 17, 2012. It covers treatment of spartina and emergent noxious weeds like purple loosestrife.

- No update

Aquatic Plant and Algae Management, modified 4/4/12. This permit covers the in-water treatment of both noxious weeds like Eurasian watermilfoil and native nuisance plants.

- Added four new reduced-risk herbicides to the permit.
- Added sign templates for posting when an applicator applies these products.
- Issued the final EIS for the new herbicides in January 2012

NEW: Japanese Eelgrass Management on Commercial Clam Beds in Willapa Bay General Permit

After considering public comments:

- Developing a permit that will allow the treatment of commercial clam beds in Willapa Bay
- Permit regulates the aquatic herbicide imazamox to manage the growth of the Class C noxious weed Japanese eelgrass.
- Ecology will follow a public process that includes issuing a draft permit and fact sheet, holding at least one public hearing and workshop about the draft permit, and establishing a public comment period.

Irrigation System Aquatic Weed Control, effective 6/15/2012.

- The new draft permit includes changes for endothall (Cascade and Teton) and fluridone. The effective use of endothall enables less use of the more toxic acrolein.
- Reduces the use of acrolein in favor of less toxic alternatives.

Stormwater permits

Boatyard Permit, effective 6/1/11 – Permit covers commercial boatyards engaged in the construction, repair and maintenance of small vessels, 85% of which are 65 feet or less in length, or revenues from which constitute more than 85% of gross receipts.

- No update

Construction Stormwater effective January 1, 2011. Construction site operators are required to be covered if they are engaged in clearing, grading, and excavating activities that disturb one or more acres and discharge stormwater to surface waters of the state. Smaller sites may also require coverage if they are part of a larger common plan of development that will ultimately disturb one acre or more.

- No update

Industrial Stormwater effective 7/1/2012.

- Revised effluent limits for fecal coliform that apply to approximately eighty facilities discharging to 303(d)-listed impaired waterbodies.
- Permit appealed by
 - BNSF Railway, for changes made that were not proposed in the draft permit and for changes that were arbitrary and capricious
 - Boeing due to removal of S2 – the automatic commencement of modification coverage, the addition of numeric limits for fecal coliform and many other issues
 - Puget Soundkeeper Alliance due to removal of FC limitations on TMDL listed waterbodies.

Municipal Phase I and Phase II Permits, effective in 2012, 2013 and 2014.

- Added LID requirements
- Modified monitoring requirements for Phase I
- Phase I Permit Appeals:
 - Building Industry Association of Clark County
 - Clark County
 - King County
 - Pierce County
 - Snohomish County
- Western Washington Phase II Permit Appeals:
 - Coalition of Governmental Entities
 - King County
 - Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District

Sand and Gravel, effective 10/1/11.

- No update

WSDOT Municipal Stormwater Ecology effective 3/4/09.

- Permit under review for reissuance spring 2014.
- Major changes: monitoring, LID

Other General Permits

Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) effective July 21, 2006. It covers livestock operations that confine animals for 45 days or more in any 12 month period in an area where there is no available forage and that have a discharge.

- No update

Fresh Fruit Packing Permit, managed out of our CRO, effective July 2, 2009. This general permit applies to the entire fresh fruit packing industry in the state of Washington except for those that have obtained individual permits from Ecology.

- No update

Upland Fin-Fish Hatching and Rearing On June 28, 2010, Ecology issued the Upland Fin-fish Hatching and Rearing NPDES General Permit. The permit controls the discharge of pollutants from upland hatcheries.

- No update

Water Treatment Plants Ecology reissued the general permit with minor changes on July 15, 2009.

- No update